

Report:
**Project SUCCESS (The IRN for Higher Academic
Achievement for Students with Disabilities)**

FY14: August 2013–November 2013





Update

Project SUCCESS continues to communicate frequently with the Indiana Department of Education and work with teachers and administrators across the state. Project SUCCESS continues to provide teachers and administrators with tools to increase academic instruction for students with significant disabilities in order to ensure they are college, career, and community ready.

Community of Practice (CoP) Transition

NCSC is in the process of necessary transitions related to the grant cycle and the progress of the project. This impacted support for Indiana and the teachers in the CoP. After several discussions with IDOE and NCSC, it was determined that the CoP members in Indiana would be invited to join Project SUCCESS. On October 18, a face to face meeting was held and the plans and opportunities were outlined by IDOE and Project SUCCESS director. Conversations were open and the group discussed next steps for continued involvement in work to increase academic achievement for students with significant cognitive disabilities. Over one third of the former CoP members committed to forming a Project SUCCESS team or committed to active participation in training sessions, webinars, etc.

Project SUCCESS Advisory Board

The Project SUCCESS Advisory Team was established and has met twice. The first meeting was held on September 18 and included an overview of Project SUCCESS including background information, review of current progress and anticipated activities. Team members were given an opportunity to describe their areas of expertise and share ideas for their involvement in Project SUCCESS. On November 7, the second Project SUCCESS Advisory Team meeting was held and provided its members with a deeper understanding of the NCSC materials and tools and the work Project SUCCESS teams are doing to insure academic instruction is occurring for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The group also discussed next steps for providing parents with information about the next generation alternate assessment.

Project SUCCESS Website and Social Media

The Project SUCCESS Website (www.projectsucceedindiana.com) continues to be updated with information and resources for team members and the general public. As NCSC releases resources, they are formatted, uploaded and organized for easy access for users. The resources include additional MASSIs, Element Cards, and supporting documentation.

Professional Development 2013-14

Project SUCCESS has provided professional development to teams across the state through monthly webinars and on-site technical assistance. The webinars have been offered live at three different times during the scheduled day, recorded, and placed on the website for review. The October webinar included an overview of the Project SUCCESS website including specifics on how to access materials and a discussion of team plans and progress. The November webinar offered a detailed description of the Instructional Families, Core Content Connectors, and Element cards (NCSC materials). The specific type



of on-site technical assistance was designed based on the individual needs of the school or district and has varied widely.

Participation and evaluation data was collected on webinar trainings and on-site technical assistance. Summaries of this data is included below.

Webinar Participation

	Topic	Viewed Live	Viewed Later
Webinar #1	Accessing Materials and Team Plans	42	no data
Webinar #2	Core Content Connectors and Element Cards	47	23

Webinar Evaluations

Webinar #1

Accessing Materials and Team Plans

Average rating based on 1 to 5 (1 strongly disagree/5 strongly agree)	
I learned something new during the training session.	4
During the training session, I learned more about a topic that was previously unclear to me.	3.4
I was able to share my concerns, thoughts and ideas during the training session.	4
I know where to access resources related to Project SUCCESS	4.8
I understand what steps my team will take next.	4
I know where to find answers if I have questions related to Project SUCCESS or Implementation of Common Core for students with disabilities.	4.4

Webinar #2

Core Content Connectors and Element Cards

Average rating based on 1 to 5 (1 strongly disagree/5 strongly agree)	
During the training session, I learned more about a topic that was previously unclear to me.	3.8
I know where to access resources related to Project SUCCESS	4.4
I understand how to read Core Content Connectors and have ideas for using in planning instruction.	4.3
I understand how to read Element Cards and have ideas for implementing with my students.	4.3
I understand what steps my team will take next.	3.5

COMMENTS: I'm glad there was an explanation of how the standards are noted. I was having trouble making sense of the seemingly random letters and numbers.



Participants reported the following next steps after Webinar #2:

- I want to go back and spend some time with the Core Content Connectors.
- I will use an Element Card(s) to plan lesson(s).
- Get more familiar with element cards.
- I will try the next steps listed in the training.
- Look closely to see what I could use for RTI
- Look closely to see what I could use for RTI
- I would like to see one of the Elements cards used to see what changes need or could be changed to fit our students.

On-Site Technical Assistance

School/Corporation	Date	Purpose
Clark Middle School, School City of Hammond	9/24/2013	Met with middle school team; trained on CCCs; established clear plan
North Miami Community Schools	9/30/2013	Addressed wide range of topics on team plan; offered feedback and suggestions for moving forward
Center Grove Community School Corporation	9/23/2013	Reviewed summer institute; discussed appropriate team members
Center Grove Community School Corporation	10/30/2013	Overview of Project SUCCESS and NCSC materials
Mississinewa Community School Corporation	11/18/2013	Reviewed team plan; trained on CCCs and Element Cards; provided feedback and suggestions for moving forward
Walkerton Elementary, John Glen School Corp.	11/21/2013	Teacher observation; met with principal; offered suggestions regarding use of NCSC materials
Joy Elementary, Michigan City Area Schools	11/21/2013	Observed LASSI implementation; met with teacher
John Young Middle School, School City of Mishawaka	11/22/2013	Observed implementation of LASSI and math Element card; met with teacher

On-Site Technical Assistance Evaluations

Average rating based on 1 to 5 (1 strongly disagree/5 strongly agree)	
I learned something new during the training session.	4.3
During the training session, I learned more about a topic that was previously unclear to me.	4.3
I was able to share my concerns, thoughts and ideas during the training session.	4.5
I know where to access resources related to Project SUCCESS	4.5
I understand what steps my team will take next.	4.3
I know where to find answers if I have questions related to Project SUCCESS or Implementation of Common Core for students with disabilities.	4.3

COMMENTS:

We were very pleased with Amy's help yesterday and are eager to continue working with her!